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# Ole Virginia Times

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The OVHARC Newsletter

"OLE VIRGINIA HAMS" AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC

Post Office Box 1255, Manassas, VA 22110

Repeater -- WA4FPM -- 146.97/224.66

OVH Nodes -- 145.03/223.54

BBS -- BBSHRG/N4WJN

## OCTOBER 1993

EDITOR'S NOTES

BY

J EDGAR/NS5N

I guess by now you have realized that this particular newsletter is just a tad bit shorter than the usual newsletter. This is in part due to a shortfall on material received for publication, and the due date for the preparation sneaking up and clubbing me from behind. I don't know about you, but this past month has been one I do not care to repeat.

I thought that wrapping up the fiscal year was particularly tough this time around, but then I got hit with registration for school (me). I decided on English 105, Business Communications. At first I thought that this may not have been a wise choice. Talk about tough curriculum!. But then I realized that the material that is being presented is what I really need and in some ways, I just might come out of this the better for the experience. Financially, I need to come out of this with a C or better. The company frowns on its employees not meeting certain standards when they are footing the bills.

I hope to have a better turn out for the next months newsletter and I have all the important dates and events marked so that I will receive constant input for delivery.

Once again, I apologize for the brevity, and I will strive to do better.

# OLE VIRGINIA HAMS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

## OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

|                              |        |                              |                              |
|------------------------------|--------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <u>DIRECTORS</u>             |        | <u>OFFICERS</u>              |                              |
| BOB                          | NR4L   | 703-361-7335                 | PRESIDENT                    |
| TIM                          | KB4NR  | 703-494-2737                 | VICE PRES                    |
| BUTCH                        | W4HJL  | 703-369-2877                 | SECRETARY                    |
|                              |        |                              | TREASURER                    |
|                              |        |                              | BUTCH                        |
|                              |        |                              | JIM                          |
|                              |        |                              | RON                          |
|                              |        |                              | MIKE                         |
|                              |        |                              | N6NSM                        |
|                              |        |                              | WD4OJY                       |
|                              |        |                              | NV3S                         |
|                              |        |                              | WV3H                         |
|                              |        |                              | 703-335-9352                 |
|                              |        |                              | 703-369-3940                 |
|                              |        |                              | 703-330-1213                 |
|                              |        |                              | 703-368-0998                 |
| <u>REPEATER TRUSTEE</u>      |        | <u>MAIL LIST</u>             |                              |
| ART                          | W1CRO  | 703-791-4330                 | BLAINE                       |
|                              |        |                              | KB4RKL                       |
|                              |        |                              | 703-369-2877                 |
| <u>FINANCE COMMITTEE</u>     |        | <u>CLUB PICNIC COMMITTEE</u> |                              |
| TIM                          | KB4NR  | 703-494-2737                 | BERNICE                      |
| JIM                          | WA2QEJ | 703-791-2932                 | KA4SCA                       |
| MARY LOU                     | KB4EFP | 703-369-2877                 | MARY LOU                     |
| PETE                         | KB4RME | 703-369-2436                 | KB4EFP                       |
| JEFF                         | KB4IWD | 703-830-1150                 |                              |
|                              |        |                              | <u>SUNSHINE COMMITTEE</u>    |
|                              |        |                              | BERNICE                      |
|                              |        |                              | KA4SCA                       |
|                              |        |                              | 703-791-3839                 |
| <u>REPEATER CONTROLLERS</u>  |        | <u>OVH WEEKLY NET</u>        |                              |
| ART                          | W1CRO  | 703-791-4330                 | HARRY                        |
| TIM                          | KB4NR  | 703-494-2737                 | W4PVA                        |
| MILT                         | N4SN   | 703-369-7265                 |                              |
| JIM                          | WA2QEJ | 703-791-2932                 | <u>CLUB NEWSLETTER</u>       |
| STEVE                        | KB4OF  | 703-368-6901                 | J EDGAR                      |
| RUSS                         | WB4HHN | 703-368-6435                 | NS5N                         |
| BUTCH                        | W4HJL  | 703-369-2877                 |                              |
| MARY LOU                     | KB4EFP | 703-369-2877                 | <u>EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE</u> |
|                              |        |                              | JOHN                         |
|                              |        |                              | N4YOB                        |
|                              |        |                              | 703-791-5995                 |
| <u>PROGRAM CHAIRMAN</u>      |        | <u>F.A.R. REPRESENTATIVE</u> |                              |
| JOE                          | AB4QV  | 703-369-6536                 | ALAN                         |
|                              |        |                              | KD4KBX                       |
|                              |        |                              | 703-330-8844                 |
| <u>1994 HAMFEST CHAIRMAN</u> |        | <u>NEWSLINE REPORT</u>       |                              |
| T.B.D.                       |        |                              | PETE                         |
|                              |        |                              | KB4RME                       |
|                              |        |                              | 703-369-2436                 |
| <u>REFRESHMENTS</u>          |        | <u>HISTORIAN</u>             |                              |
| T.B.D.                       |        |                              | GREG                         |
|                              |        |                              | N4NRK                        |
|                              |        |                              | 703-690-5949                 |
| <u>MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN</u>   |        | <u>PUBLICITY CHAIRMAN</u>    |                              |
| JIM                          | WD4OJY | 703-369-3940                 | KEN                          |
|                              |        |                              | KM4UH                        |
|                              |        |                              | 703-369-5287                 |

PLEASE TAKE NOTE OF THIS NEW MASTHEAD AND ADVISE ME OF ANY CHANGES/DELETIONS/ADDITIONS.

## NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the OLE VIRGINIA HAMS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB will be on October 18th, 1993, in the Basement Meeting Room of the Northern Virginia Electric Cooperative, 10323 Lomond Drive, Manassas, VA. The meeting starts at 8:00 PM and all are welcome to attend.

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### OLE VIRGINIA HAMS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC. MINUTES OF MEETING

September 20, 1993

The OVH September, 1993 Meeting was called to order at 8:03 P.M. There were 29 members and 5 guests present for a total attendance of 34.

The Pledge of Allegiance by all members, oral roll call, and signing of the attendance list opened the meeting which was presided over by Butch, N6NSM, Club President.

Mike, WV3H, Club Treasurer, reported the September 20th balances.

There was no program tonight. There will be no program at the October Club meeting either, per Joe, AB4QV.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS:

There were no reports from the Finance, Technical, and Computer Committees.

The Packet Committee report, given by Mike, WV3H, stated that the new coax was installed on the 220Mhz side. However, the problem turned out to be a bad solder joint on the main capacitor in the base of the antenna. It was resoldered and now all is working well.

For Public Service, Harry, W4PVA, said that Dave Stuart, from Dale City, is the new EC for Prince William County. Some event is taking place in Old Town Manassas on October 5th.

Someone needs to check it out.

On October 10th, from 9 A.M. until noon, is the Fall bike tour for the Prince William County Park Authority. Harry needs someone to get calls and names for the event. Also, on October 24th is the Marine Corp. marathon, contact Harry if interested.

Jay, NS5N, reported the results of the Special Event Station at the Manassas Air Show. The Station made 50 contacts, sent 3 messages to the NTS and had 37 visitors. All in all, weather and Harrier Jets considered, things went well. For next year, Club needs to get involved earlier in the process.

The Club newsletter was discussed. Everything is still going well. Keep sending those articles to Jay, NS5N.

Jim, WD4OJY, Membership Chairman, read and the following new membership applications for the first time: Pat, KE4FMY; Steve, WA3RKM; Scott, No Call. The following were read for the second time and unanimously voted into the club: John, NQ4Q; Mike, N5OJM; Dave, No Call; Tony, No Call.

The Education Committee, John, N4YOB, reported that the new No-code Tech classes will be starting October 5th at Stonewall Jackson High School at 8 P.M.

The Picnic Committee reported that the picnic is September 25th, 1 P.M., at J.C. Long Park. Please send in reservation form or call Mary Lou, KB4EFP, by Thursday, September, 23rd.

Alan, KD4KBX, gave the F.A.R. report. F.A.R. gave out 41 scholarships from 146 applications. Other items of interest were discussed.

## OLD BUSINESS:

The status of the Club awarded scholarships has been determined. None were given out this year. The money will be put aside for next year's scholarships. Any other issues will be resolved by Pete, KB4RME.

The Club STILL needs a new refreshment chairman. If interested, contact Butch, N6NSM.

To anyone interested, the Club still needs a Chairman (or several chairmen) for the 1994 Hamfest. Contact Butch, N6NSM.

## NEW BUSINESS:

Butch, W4HJL, brought up about the Boy Scouts Jamboree-On-The-Air (JOTA) on October 16-17th. He said that volunteer stations were needed. So far he has W4HJL, NV3S and N6NSM. 3-4 are still needed, if interested call Butch, W4HJL.

There was a general discussion on donating additional funds to the Red Cross due to the large amount of disaster relief funds that have been spent this year. Discussion was tabled until the finance committee can determine what is available to the Club to donate. They will make a report at the next meeting.

Harry reported that NOVEC will be renovating the room the club meets in. When and for how long is still to be determined. In the mean time, a temporary place needs to be found. Any ideas, call Butch, N6NSM.

The 50-50 drawing was won by Harry, W4PVA.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:12 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Ron Everett, NV3S  
Club Secretary

## HF-VHF GATEWAYS

(excerpts from Ham Happenings, Oct 93)

de J Edgar/NS5N

For those of you that like to try out HF packet, here are three that were listed in a recent newsletter that we exchange with:

IDAH0 (40 meters): Paul (N7RXY),  
7090.8, MBX N7RXY-1

Connected to this gateway is:

KB0IP/H, RKYMTN/H (Denver, Co)  
J0ES (20 meters): Joe (WA7TCT),  
14102.7, MBX WA7TCT-1

Connected to this gateway is:

ABE (Springfield, Il);SMT0 (San Mateo, C a)  
P0PS (17 meters): Ken (KB7IAW),  
18105., MBX KB7IAW-1

Connected to this gateway is:

WIGER (Germantown, Wi); AZ (Tombstone,  
AZ); TL2MEN (San Jose, Costa Rica)

Note that each gateway call or name contains a numeral; those oh's in each name are in fact zeroes. The software in use requires at least one numeral in the call or it will not recognize it.

To access the gateway, connect to the gateway name. Locally, you would connect normally via 145.01. Once connected, you will be presented with a menu which will offer the option 'x' as well as the usual items (c,n,b, etc.). This 'x' is the crossband connect command; use it to connect to a station on the other side (145.01).

From there, you can connect to any of the local users and establish "Packet Pal" via a nice HF link

There are several more HF gateways around, but it's nice to have a few that are for open two-way communications. Most are set aside for handling traffic forwarding. Great to monitor, but poor for contacts.

Try these sometime and leave them a note from the Ole Virginia Hams. I am sure they will get a kick out of it.

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## SPEAKING OF UFO'S

Adapted from a packet bulletin from VE3STM

There was a gas station down the road around the corner. One night around midnight the attendant was standing outside. As he look up into the sky, he noticed this shining object hovering above. It soon landed beside the fuel pumps and an alien creature jumped out. It scurried around the pumps for a few minutes, examining them carefully. After a few minutes the creature glanced at the attendant, smiled and opened a hatch on his spacecraft marked "U.F.O."

The attendant finally recovered his composure sufficiently to say, "I suppose that stands for Unidentified Flying Object?"

The alien shook his head and replied, "Unleaded Fuel Only."



## **OVH CLASSIFIEDS**

Wanted:

MFM Hard disk controller w/floppy drive controller for a Sea-gate drive Model #ST-251 -- A Sea-gate ST-22M is the recommended card. I would also be interested in a terminating resistor for a Seagate ST-251.

Contact:

Jim (WD4OJY) @ 369-3940 - evenings or on packet, either direct or via N4WJN.

Wanted:

Manual for Ten-Tec 252G HF Rig Power Supply. Having intermittent power problem and need manual & schematics to track it down.

Contact:

Jim (KD4AUJ) @ 369-0782.

For Sale:

Tandy DMP-132 Printer. Hard working utility dot matrix printer. Excellent for use as line printer on packet radio.

Price: \$100.00

For Sale:

Panasonic KX-P2624 24 Pin Dot Matrix Printer. This is a wide carriage printer supplied with Adobe Type Manager Software for an unbelievable amount of Fonts and printing capability. Wife wants a laser printer so this one goes cheap. List is

\$619.00; wholesale is \$395.00.

Price: \$300.00

For Sale:

MFJ-1278 Multimode TNC all Software and Documentation

PLUS

a homebrewed interface for any radio configuration. This interface provides DC isolation of the audio line for those rigs that have a control voltage on the audio line. Perfect for use with ICOMs and such.

Price: \$250.00

Contact:

J Edgar (NS5N) @ 330-7333

For Sale:

MFJ-931 MFJ Artificial Ground \$55.00

2 Seagate ST-277 65Mbyte drives with RLL 1:1 controller (AT BUS) \$325.00

Genoa EGA Card Super Hi-Res 800x600 \$70.00

Central Point Software COPY II Board \$25.00

Adaptec RLL Controller Interleave 3:1 w/floppy support. (for XT) \$15.00

CGA PC Board \$5.00

Sound Board (B.G. Micro) \$20.00

4 port I/O board (82450 UARTS) w/adaptor cable) \$20.00

Future Domain - TMC-850MEX SCSI Controller f/u/w

CD-ROM only - no floppy or HD support) \$20.00

286 Motherboard w/1mbyte RAM and Coprocessor \$125.00

Contact:

Mike (KC4ZNQ) @ 335-5031 or on packet, direct (MBX KC4ZNQ-1) or via KF4TE (145.07).

**FREE!**

One box of Vacuum Cleaner Bags with spare **NEW** brush for a Bissel Electric Broom.

Contact:

Harry (W4PVA) @ 368-6050

For Sale:

Yaesu FT757 GX II HF Transceiver in mint condition with Box, Mobile Mount and Manual.

Firm Price: \$695.00

Contact:

George (NVIXV) @ 703 368 2732

Please remember when discussing the trade or sale of items via radio, be it packet, cw or voice that the inclusion of prices is not permitted under F.C.C. guidelines. Tnx, Editor..

## A SIMPLE UNIVERSAL RF TEST OSCILLATOR

(from)

(10-70 Repeater Assn. Inc.)

(October 1993)

Most of us at one time or another would like to have a low power steady signal source for testing out that new antenna or receiver. You can't count on the repeater always being up, and it's not nice to key it up to use as a test signal, and HF signals are much too erratic if you're working on a HF rig. This simple oscillator will fill your signal source needs nicely without breaking your wallet, and it's very easy to build. This oscillator will work with nearly any crystal from 100kHz up, and is rich in harmonics, so one crystal will provide many different marker frequencies. The power output is about 10 milliwatts at the crystal fundamental frequency. Don't hook this up to a good HF antenna, 10 milliwatts will go a considerable distance! With a 7 MHz crystal, for example, the 21st harmonic falls in the two meter band, and has about 0.1 microwatts of power, plenty enough to be heard 50 to 100 feet away with a short antenna. Incidentally, CB type transmitting crystals from channel 20 to 40 have harmonics from 144.026 to 146.160 MHz. The fundamental frequency of these crystals is about 9 MHz, times 16 equals 144 MHz.

The parts for this oscillator are all available at Radio Shack except possibly for crystals (they sell crystals too!-Ed). Some stores still have crystals, otherwise you can order from International Crystal in Florida, or hit the next flea market.

As you can see, the parts are not at all critical, so don't be afraid to try what you have lying around in your junk box. Power ratings on parts are unimportant. Keep wiring short and direct. Don't omit the antenna, it contributes to the feedback necessary for oscillation. You may find your oscillator will not work without the antenna. Also, the higher the fundamental frequency the crystal, the stronger the harmonics.

build this oscillator on any convenient base, such as a perf board, pc board, or even open air, which is what I use.

I take no credit for this circuit, I merely adapted it from a transistor tester in the ARRI Handbook.

73, de Howie - WB2AWQ

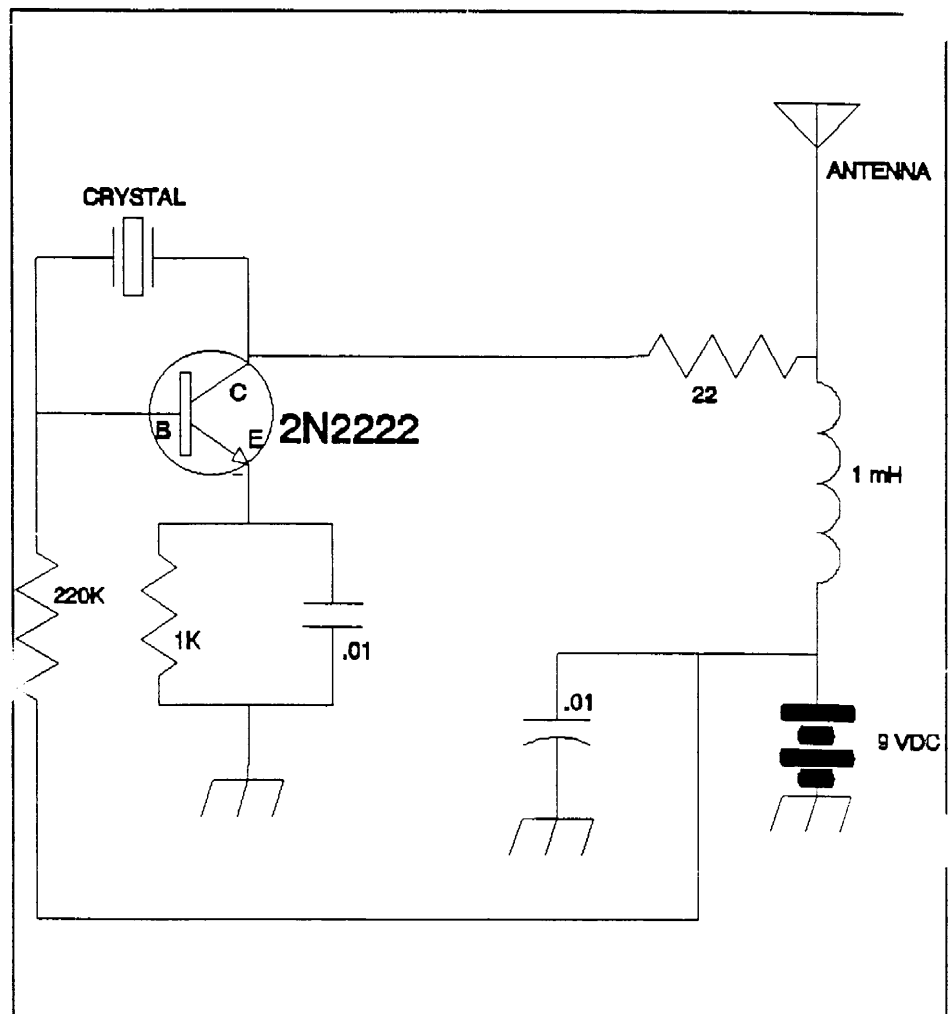
### PARTS LIST

- 1 NPN silicon RF or switching transistor type 2N2222 or 2N3904
- 1 220K resistor (any value from 100K to 300K will work)
- 1 1K resistor (any value from 680 to 1500 ohms will work)
- 1 22 ohm resistor (try from 10 to 50 ohm)
- 2 .01 uF disc capacitors (.005 to .05 uF is OK too)
- 1 1 mH RF choke (anything from 100 uH to 5 mH will do)  
If you can't find one ready made, wind 50 to 75 turns of

fine varnish insulated magnet wire around a 1/2 watt resistor body, any value over 100 ohms, and solder the wire ends to the resistor leads. You have just made an RF choke!

- 1 crystal of your choice. DigiKey in Minnesota sells computer crystals, which will work just fine, if you can't find crystals locally.
- 1 9 vdc battery and clip
- 1 **SHORT** antenna, no more than 1 foot

Now take a look at the simple schematic and judge for yourself if you can do this or not. I think that you can!!





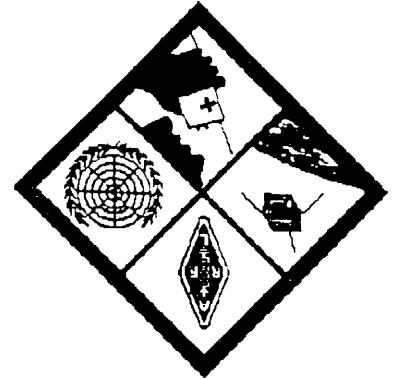
# OLE VIRGINIA HAMS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

## October 17 - November 13, 1993



| SUNDAY                                         | MONDAY                                                                                                | TUESDAY                                                    | WEDNESDAY                                                                                               | THURSDAY                                                                                                     | FRIDAY | SATURDAY                                                                     |
|------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Oct 17<br>1700 10-10 NET                       | Oct 18<br>2000 MEETING-OLE VIRGINIA HAMS<br>2000 NET-WOODBRIDGE<br>WIRELESS-147.84 MHz/<br>223.18 MHz | Oct 19<br>MEETING-SPARK                                    | Oct 20<br>0400 ORIONID METEOR<br>SHOWER<br>2000 NET-NVFMA-146.79<br>MHz<br>2000 NET-FARA-147.165<br>MHz | Oct 21<br>VEC-TOWSON, MD<br>2000 NET-OVH-146.970<br>MHz/224.66 MHz                                           | Oct 22 | Oct 23                                                                       |
| Oct 24<br>1700 10-10 NET                       | Oct 25<br>2000 NET-WOODBRIDGE<br>WIRELESS-147.84 MHz/<br>223.18 MHz                                   | Oct 26<br>VEC-LAUREL, MD                                   | Oct 27<br>2000 NET-NVFMA-146.79<br>MHz<br>2000 NET-FARA-147.165<br>MHz                                  | Oct 28<br>2000 NET-OVH-146.970<br>MHz/224.66 MHz                                                             | Oct 29 | Oct 30<br>VEC-FREDERICKSBURG,<br>VA<br>1000 MEETING-MOOSE<br>ARC             |
| Oct 31<br>VEC-HAGERSTOWN, MD<br>1700 10-10 NET | Nov 1<br>2000 NET-WOODBRIDGE<br>WIRELESS-147.84 MHz/<br>223.18 MHz                                    | Nov 2<br>MEETING-SPARK                                     | Nov 3<br>ARTICLE DEADLINE<br>2000 NET-NVFMA-146.79<br>MHz<br>2000 NET-FARA-147.165<br>MHz               | Nov 4<br>1930 MEETING-VA<br>BEACH ARC<br>2000 NET-OVH-146.970<br>MHz/224.66 MHz                              | Nov 5  | Nov 6<br>VEC-PORTSMOUTH, VA<br>VEC-COLLEGE PARK, MD                          |
| Nov 7<br>VEC-LANDOVER, MD<br>1700 10-10 NET    | Nov 8<br>2000 NET-WOODBRIDGE<br>WIRELESS-147.84 MHz/<br>223.18 MHz                                    | Nov 9<br>0001 TAURID METEOR<br>SHOWER<br>1930 MEETING-FARA | Nov 10<br>2000 NET-NVFMA-146.79<br>MHz<br>2000 NET-FARA-147.165<br>MHz                                  | Nov 11<br>MEETING-AMRAD<br>1930 MEETING-<br>WOODBRIDGE<br>WIRELESS<br>2000 NET-OVH-146.970<br>MHz/224.66 MHz | Nov 12 | Nov 13<br>VEC-DAVIDSONVILLE,<br>MD<br>VEC-RICHMOND, VA<br>VEC-ALEXANDRIA, VA |

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